



AMERICAN
INDIANS
OF WESTERN
CANADA
BY
W.
LANGDON
KIHN
1923



DIVISION OF

APR 26 1923

ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM



W. LANGDON KIHN HAS
THE HONOR OF INVITING
YOU TO HIS SECOND AN-
NUAL EXHIBITION OF
PORTRAIT DRAWINGS
OF AMERICAN INDIANS
OF WESTERN CANADA
AT THE AINSLIE GALLER-
IES, SIX HUNDRED SEVEN-
TY SEVEN FIFTH AVENUE,
FROM MAY FIRST TO FIF-
TEENTH INCLUSIVE, NINE-
TEEN TWENTY THREE...





W. LANGDON KIMM 1912

MRS. BEN KAKUTTS
Red-Woman Wiya-Sha
Stoney Indian of Alberta

EXHIBITION
PORTRAITS OF AMERICAN INDIANS
OF WESTERN CANADA

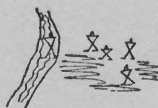
TOGETHER WITH DOUKHOBORS OF COLUMBIA
VALLEY, BLACKFEET INDIANS OF MONTANA,
PUEBLO INDIANS OF NEW MEXICO, A FEW
GUIDES AND TRAILMEN, AND SOME LANDSCAPES

BY

W. LANGDON KIHN

Chase-Enemy-in-the-Water

Zoi-och-ka-tsai-ya



May first to May fifteenth

Nineteen hundred twenty-three

AINSLIE GALLERIES
Six Hundred Seventy-seven Fifth Avenue
New York City

THE INDIAN PORTRAITS OF W. LANGDON KIHN

By PEYTON BOSWELL

The whole country, by this time, is familiar with the "Taos school" of painters—that is, the work of that group of artists who have chosen the Southwest as their particular field and the life of the Indians of that section as their particular subjects. Nearly a score of artists have contributed to the reputation of the "Taos school" and the process of establishing this reputation has extended over a number of years.

And now there comes along a young artist, W. Langdon Kihn, who in a period of three years has established himself as a distinct "school" by himself, differing from all other "schools" of Indian painting; and who, besides stirring the admiration of the art world for the pure beauty of his work, has earned the plaudits of a much more exacting audience—one composed of scientists and ethnologists, whose interest in the Indian is not so much that of beauty as that of truth. The work of this young artist in the last three years, among various tribes of our North American aborigines, has been hailed by these authorities as something of lasting import, for the reason that it constitutes a faithful and spirited artistic transcription of a people and a life now swiftly passing from the world's stage.

Mr. Kihn's work is significant, characteristic and beautiful. It differs from the product of the "Taos school" because this artist more than any of his colleagues seems to have made his pictures *Indian*—that is, to have looked through the eyes of an Indian rather than of a white man and to have painted his subjects in a decorative way that seems intended rather to please and satisfy the Indian than the white man. A Kihn portrait of an Indian is thoroughly aboriginal, not a Caucasian picture with an Indian theme. This is true both as to coloring and design. And when it comes to the portrayal of the faces of his subjects, Mr. Kihn explains his success (probably without knowing it) when he says: "There is something about their red faces that makes me feel that they have been carved and hewn out of stone with a chisel." Feeling this, he has painted them that way, and thereby achieved a verity in Indian portraiture that is magnificent.

Mr. Kihn's work is all the more to be wondered at when it is considered that he is still a very young man, having been born in Brooklyn in 1898. He first studied in Homer Boss' landscape class in the summer of 1913 at Monhegan Island, Maine. In 1916 he dropped all other studies and entered the Art Students' League. Later, he worked under Mr. F. Winold Reiss. Early in 1920 he started on his first trip West, and with this began his career as a portraitist of Indians.

His first experience was with the historic tribe of Blackfeet in Montana, who have always been so hospitable to the white man and who have found so many sincere admirers among the ruling race. The next Spring he passed among the Pueblo Indians of Laguna and Acoma, New Mexico. The pictures resulting from these two trips were shown last year in a special exhibition at the Anderson Galleries, New York, which won quick recognition for the young artist. This exhibition is now on a circuit of the museums and other public institutions of the West. It has already been seen in thirteen cities of the Middle West and West.

Then in the Spring of last year, Mr. Kihn betook himself to a new "camping ground." He went to the Canadian Rockies, and the next seven months he passed in painting the aborigines of the Stoney tribe, at Morley, Alberta; the Kootenay tribe, on the Upper Columbia River, and the Nootka totem-pole Indians of Vancouver Island. On this trip he found, more than in the two previous ones, primitive decoration and elemental colors, and these are the prevailing feature of the new exhibition. There are two elements in each of them; first, the face, set down with the surety of a master of drawing; second, the ornamentation, as expressed in the costume, in which the artist has been as arbitrary as the Indian himself in expressing the Indian's sense of color and design. This is especially noted in such works as "Susette", "Mrs. Holloway", "Albin", "Mrs. Albin", "Hector Crawler" and "Mary Alice McLean."

As said at the beginning of this foreword, Mr. Kihn has established a "school" of Indian portraiture for himself. In other words, he has put elements into his work which make it possible for an art lover, at first sight of one of his pictures, to exclaim, "That is a Kihn!". A long step, indeed, for a painter of twenty-four to take. The art world has reason to expect a great deal from W. Langdon Kihn.

AMERICAN INDIANS OF WESTERN CANADA
STONEY INDIAN TRIBE

1

DAN WILDMAN
LITTLE-THUNDER

Wakiya-cicina

Stoney Indian of the Alberta prairies.

2

BEN KAKUITTS
LAST-BUFFALO

Tatanka-ohagao

Stoney Indian of Morley, Alberta. Husband of Red-Woman. Father of George Kakuitts.
(See numbers three and seventeen.)

3

MRS. BEN KAKUITTS
RED-WOMAN

Wiya-sha

Cree Indian woman from Stoney Indian reserve at Morley, Alberta. Wife of Ben Kakuitts.
(See number two.)

4

JANE HALLOWAY
SHEEP-WOMAN

Kiska-winya

Blackfeet Indian woman from Stoney Indian reserve at Morley, Alberta. Mother of Horace Holloway.
(See number five.)

5

HORACE HALLOWAY
LAST-PINTO

Blackfeet Indian "bronc" rider from the Stoney Indian reserve at Morley, Alberta. Son of Jane Holloway. (See number four.)

6

MRS. HALLOWAY

(Indian name not known)

Stoney Indian of Morley, Alberta. Wife of Horace Halloway. (See number five.)

7

JAKE-2-YOUNG MEN

AMERICAN MAN

Mena-wasecu

Stoney Indian of Morley, Alberta. Father of Art-2-Youngmen. (See number eight.)

8

ART-2-YOUNG MEN

Koska-nom

Stoney Indian boy of Morley, Alberta. Son of Jake-2-Youngmen. (See number seven.)

9

GEORGE McLEAN

WALKING-BUFFALO

Tatanka-mani

Stoney Indian of Morley, Alberta. Father of Mary Alice McLean.
(See number ten.)

10

MARY ALICE McLEAN

OTTER-WOMAN

Itabya-wiya

Stoney Indian of Morley, Alberta. Daughter of George McLean. (See number nine.)

11

HECTOR CRAWLER

CALF-CHILD

Tatanka-cinca

Stoney Indian medicine-man of Morley, Alberta.



W. LANGDON KINN 1922

ALBIN
Indian Name not known
Kootenay Indian of British Columbia

12

JAKE SWAMPY
SQUIRREL

Sija

Swampy Cree Indian of Stoney Indian reserve at Morley, Alberta.

13

ROSIE
COYOTTE-WOMAN

Sunktoya-wiya

Stoney Indian woman of Morley, Alberta.

14

GEORGIE HUNTER

Stoney Indian girl of Morley, Alberta.

15

JONAS BENJAMIN
RUNNING-RABBIT

Mustiya-iyanga

Stoney Indian of Morley, Alberta.

16

PAUL BEAVER

Stoney Indian "bronc" rider of Morley, Alberta.

17

GEORGE KAKUITTS
WOLF-TEETH

Sunktohca-iska

Stoney Indian of Morley, Alberta. Son of Ben Kakuitts. (See number two.

18

PETE KENNEDY

(Indian name not known)

Chippewaian Indian of Stoney Indian reserve at Morley, Alberta.

19

INDIAN PLAINS WOMAN WITH PAPOOSE

Alberta.

AMERICAN INDIANS OF WESTERN CANADA
KOOTENAY INDIAN TRIBE

20

NIAS FISHER
WEASEL-TAIL

Miuk-a-a-kat

Kootenay Indian of Upper Columbia River, British Columbia. Husband of Scalping-a-Retreating-Enemy. (See number twenty-one.)

21

MRS. NIAS FISHER
SCALPING-A-RETREATING-ENEMY

Kluk-kachl-hichk-ist

Kootenay Indian woman of Upper Columbia River, British Columbia. Wife of Weasel-Tail. (See number twenty.)

22

LOUIS ARBELLE
GRIZZLY

Kan-e-klow-kla

Chief of Kootenay Indian tribe at Upper Columbia River, British Columbia.

23

MARY ISAACS
GOOD-SINGER

Ksuk-kla-klu-uk

Kootenay Indian woman of Upper Columbia River, British Columbia.

24

ALBIN

Kootenay Indian of Upper Columbia River, British Columbia. Husband of Mrs. Albin. (See number twenty-five.)

25

MRS. ALBIN

Kootenay Indian woman of Upper Columbia River, British Columbia. Wife of Albin.
(See number twenty-four.)

26

SUSETTE

Kootenay Indian woman of the Upper Columbia River with papoose and papoose-board strapped to
back.

27

JOE NANA

RUNNING-CALF

Kan-a-hun-kan-goya-kathlam

Kootenay Indian of Upper Columbia River, British Columbia.

28

A KOOTENAY INDIAN BOY

(Indian name not known)

Of Upper Columbia River, British Columbia.

AMERICAN INDIANS OF WESTERN CANADA
NOOTKA INDIAN TRIBE OR TOTEM-POLE INDIANS

29

NAPOLEON MAQUINNA

Chief of Nootka Tribe of Indians, Nootka Sound, Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Direct descendant of historically famous Chief Maquinna.

30

FRANK SAVEY

Ta-is-sum

Chief of Ehattisaht Tribe, Esperanza Inlet, Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Inhabitant of Nootka.

31

KA-NITL

Old Totem-Pole woman with cigarette. Nootka Sound, Vancouver Island, British Columbia

32

EHATTISAHT SAM

Qua-ui-na

Old Nootka Fisherman, Nootka Sound, Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

33

A NOOTKA CRIER

Nootka crier with ceremonial mask of wood, cedar bark and feathers.

34

KATIE

Nootka Indian woman. Nootka Sound, Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Mother of Agnes.
(See number thirty-five.)

35

AGNES

Wayash

Young Nootka Indian girl. Nootka Sound, Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Daughter of
Katie. (See number thirty-four.)

36

CAPTAIN JACK

Awa-wati

Direct descendant of old Chief Callicum of historic fame. Nootka Sound, Vancouver Island, British
Columbia.

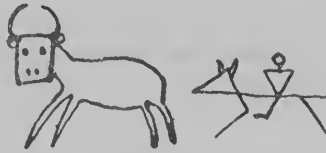
AMERICAN INDIANS OF MONTANA
BLACKFEET INDIAN TRIBE

37

CHARLIE-AFTER-BUFFALO

Awa-k-ma

Blackfeet Indian, Browning, Montana.



38

BAD-MARRIAGE

Buch-co-mita

Blackfeet Indian, rough rider.



39

WHITE-DOG

A-pue-me-ta

Blackfeet Indian, Crazy Dog Society dancer. Indian warrior.



40

BAD-MARRIAGE

(Same as number thirty-eight)

41

WHITE-CALF

O-nista-puka

(A study)

Historically famous Chief of the Blackfeet Tribe, statesman and warrior. Father of John-Two-Guns-White-Calf, Indian police chief, now living.





HECTOR CRAWLER
Calf-Child Tatanka-Cinca
Head Medicine Man of Stoney Tribe

AMERICAN INDIANS OF NEW MEXICO
PUEBLO INDIANS

42

OLD LAGUNA PUEBLO WOMAN

(Indian name not known)

Casa-Blanca, New Mexico.

43

JUANITA WEEKER

Shaycetuwesa

Laguna Indian girl. Laguna, New Mexico.

44

ACOMA PUEBLO INDIAN

(Indian name not known)

Acoma, New Mexico.

GUIDES AND TRAILMEN

45

“BILL” POTTS

(Profile)

Best known guide and big-game hunter in Canadian Rockies.

46

“BILL” POTTS

(Full face)

(Same as number forty-five.)

47

HERB “SOAPY” SMITH

Guide and trailman of Alberta

48

A TRAILMAN

49

A COWBOY

DOUKHOBORS OF CANADA

50

JOHN E. KONKIN

Doukhor of the community at Brilliant, British Columbia. Formerly a priest in Russia.
A Siberian exile for twenty years.

51

POPOFF

A Svobodniki or Hjack. An extremist of the Russian Doukhobors at Thrums, British Columbia.

52

ANASTASIA VERIGAN

Doukhor of the community at Brilliant, British Columbia.

53

“BILLY” CHERNOFF

Russian Doukhor boy from the community at Brilliant, British Columbia.

65

PRAIRIE MISSION

66

ROLLING PRAIRIE

67

ALONG THE TRAIL

68

PAST GRANDEUR

AMERICAN WRITER AND POET OF WESTERN PLAINS
AND MOUNTAIN LIFE

69

BLISS CARMAN

(Not For Sale)

Portraits of American Indians have been shown
by Mr. Kihn at the following galleries:

Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe
February, 1920

Hanfstaengl Galleries, New York City.
March, 1920

Hill-Tollerton Galleries, San Francisco
March-April, 1921

University of California, Berkeley
April-May, 1921

Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe
May, 1921

General Federation of Women's Clubs, Salt Lake City
June, 1921

Anderson Galleries, New York City
Under the Auspices of the Museum of New Mexico
March-April, 1922

Fine Arts Section
Minnesota State Fair at Hamline
September, 1922

Milwaukee Art Institute
September, 1922

Springfield Art Association, Springfield Illinois
October, 1922

Denver Art Association
November-December, 1922

Broadmoor Art Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado
January, 1923

University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma
February-March, 1923

Los Angeles Museum of Art, Science and History
April, 1923



W. LANGDON KIRK 22

MARY ISAACS
Good-Singer Ksok-Kla-Klu-Uk
Kootenay Indian Woman of British Columbia

